

REMARKS

Claims 19-32 are all the claims pending in the application.

Previously pending claims 2-4, 8, 9 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kawamura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,371,553). This rejection is considered moot in view of the newly added claims.

According to the new independent claims 19, 24, and 29, the first network device receives a predetermined signal that indicates information on at least one of a plurality of functions and operating status of the second network device and notifies a user according to the information of the second network device to allow the user to control an operation of the second network device from the first network device by utilizing the received information.

However, Kawamura only discloses a control signal that is transmitted to control another network device. (See, Column 7, Lines 48-64 of Kawamura) Kawamura does not disclose a method and apparatus for managing a network by using the predetermined signal that indicates information on at least one of a plurality of functions and operating status.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Application No.: 09/445,769

Attorney Docket No.: Q57164

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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